

Tri-State Governors Speak at National Conference

Posted: Feb 22, 2009 09:30 PM CST Feb 22, 2009 09:30 PM CST

Our nation's governors are in Washington, D.C. this weekend for the 2009 National Governor's Association Winter Meeting. Governors discussed their own state's economic condition and how they can work together to address issues like the mortgage crisis, health care reform, and the development of energy and technology. The goal is to make sure America can compete in the global economy. Sunday's special session was dedicated to infrastructure financing, accountability, and sustainability.

"Last year Congress put \$8 billion into highway trust fund, we're going to bring it down to less than \$3 billion dollars. So it's not something we can put on the back burner," says Republican South Dakota Governor Mike Rounds.

"What we're about here in Nebraska is trying to figure out the appropriate use of those funds. We've already begun to move on roads infrastructure funding. That will create jobs," says Republican Nebraska Governor Dave Heineman.

"So I applaud the President, I applaud members of Congress that supported the stimulus bill and now governors and mayors need to get the job done and make sure this works for Americans, and in my case, Iowans," says Democrat Iowa Governor Chet Culver.

Governor Culver also said the day the president signed the bill, Iowa's department of transportation awarded \$56 million in road and bridge projects as part of an immediate stimulus for the Hawkeye state.